THE EXAMINER.

No. 217 SUNDAY, FEB. 23, 1812.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few. SWIFT.

No. 211.

LETTER OF THE PRINCE REGENT.

The bandage is at length entirely removed from the eyes of the nation, and they have now a clearer sight of the features they have so long been fancying. What do they think of them? Has the eye that intelligence which they imagined? Has the smile that candour and benevolence? Has the aspect, altogether, that sincerity of intention, that singleness of object, that openness of promise, with which the dream of their blindness has been visited? The youth who received his sight at fourteen started back to find his parents so ugly; but their real kindness had made them hands one to his imagination, and might again restore the delusion. Can it be so with us! Our good opinion has been *gratuitous* for a much longer time; and if we start as he did, is it likely that we shall recover as he might?—But a truce with questions. It is a melancholy catechism; and the most credulous faith would find it difficult to frame the answers.

The reader will recollect that at the commencement of the past week, the politicians were full of Mr. PERCEVAL's triumphant insinuations, which the Opposition were in vain endeavouring to render weak or even doubtful. The chagrin of the *Chronicle*, in particular, was as manifest as it was natural. The Editor, after being driven, day after day, inch by inch, from every entrenchment of appearances and matter-of-fact, had been compelled to muster up recollections of all the PRINCE's professions, habits, and declarations, for the last thirty years, and to fortify himself with reflections to the following purpose:—Surely it is impossible that the Prince of WALES, the friend of Ireland, can set at nought the important question of Catholic Emancipation, upon which he has so often professed his anxiety:—surely it is too gross to suppose, that the Prince of WALES, the friend of FOX, can have been affecting habits of thinking, and indulging in habits of intimacy, which he is to give up at a moment's notice for nobody knows what:—surely it cannot be, that the PRINCE REGENT,—the Whig PRINCE, the friend of Ireland—the friend of FOX,—the liberal, tolerant, experienced, large-minded HEIR APPARENT, can retain in power the very Men, against whose opinions he has repeatedly declared himself, and whose retention in power hitherto he has explicitly stated to be owing solely to a feeling of delicacy with respect to his Father! Surely they abuse the PRINCE who talk in this manner:—we cannot be so unjust as to believe it for an instant, we cannot suppose him to be so weak, so temporizing, so void of all real opinion, so wanting to himself and to common truth, so trammelled in strange necessities, so unfortunate, so mean, so deplorable!—So saying, the Editor holds out to the last, when in the midst of his enumerations and defiances, his antagonists thrust a written paper in his face, and at the mere sight of this, the combat is decided.—It is, indeed, a portentous manuscript; and no wonder the poor *Chronicle*'s ideas of Catholic promise, Princely consistency, and Whig patriotism, faded away before it. Thousands, who had much less enthusiasm on those matters, will feel it chill them to the soul.

LETTER OF THE PRINCE REGENT.

MY DEAREST BROTHER,

As the Restrictions on the Exercise of the Royal Authority will shortly expire, when I must make my arrangements for the future administration of the powers with which I am invested, I think it right to communicate to you those sentiments which I was withheld from expressing at an early period of the Session, by my earnest desire that the expected motion on the Affairs of Ireland might undergo the deliberate discussion of Parliament, unmixed with any other consideration.

I think it hardly necessary to call your recollection to the recent circumstances under which I assumed the Authority delegated to me by Parliament. At a moment of unexampled difficulty and danger, I was called upon to make a selection of persons to whom I should entrust the functions of the Executive Government.

My sense of duty to our Royal Father solely decided that choice, and every private feeling gave way to considerations which admitted of no doubt or hesitation. I trust I acted in that respect as the genuine representative of the August Person whose functions I was appointed to discharge; and I have the satisfaction of knowing, that such was the opinion of persons for whose judgment and honourable principles I entertain the highest respect.

In various instances, as you well know, where the law of the last Session left me at full liberty, I have waved any personal gratification, in order that his Majesty might resume, on his restoration to health, every power and prerogative belonging to his Crown. I certainly am the last person in the kingdom to whom it can be permitted to despair of our Royal Father's recovery.

A new æra is now arrived, and I cannot but reflect with satisfaction on the events which have distinguished the short period of my restricted Regency. Instead of suffering in the loss of any of her possessions, by the gigantic force which has been employed against them, Great Britain has added most important acquisitions to her empire; the national faith has been preserved inviolate towards our Allies; and if character is strength as applied to a nation, the increased and increasing reputation of his Majesty's arms will shew to the Nations of the Continent how much they may still achieve when animated by a glorious spirit of resistance to a foreign yoke. In the critical situation of the war in the Peninsula I shall be most anxious to avoid any measure which can lead my Allies to suppose that I mean to depart from my present system. Perseverance alone can achieve the great object in question, and I cannot withhold my approbation from those who have honourably distinguished themselves in support of it. I have no predilection to indulge, no resentments to gratify, no objects to attain, but such as are common to the whole Empire. If such is the leading principle of my conduct, and I can appeal to the past as the evidence of what the future will be, I flatter myself I shall meet with the support of Parliament, and of a candid and enlightened nation.

Having made this communication of my sentiments, in this

new and extraordinary crisis of our affairs, I cannot conclude without expressing the gratification I should feel, if some of those persons with whom the early habits of my public life were formed, would strengthen my hands, and constitute a part of my Government. With such support, and aided by a vigorous and united Administration, formed on the most liberal basis, I shall look with additional confidence to a prosperous issue of the most arduous contest in which Great Britain was ever engaged.

You are authorised to communicate these sentiments to Lord Grey, who, I have no doubt, will make them known to Lord Grenville.—I am, always, &c. GEORGE P. R.

Carlton House, Feb. 13, 1812.

P. S.—I shall send a Copy of this Letter immediately to Mr. Perceval.

To his Royal Highness the Duke of York.

To this strange communication, the palpable absurdity of which, if we can get rid of the melancholy considerations connected with it, must strike us as ludicrous, the two Noblemen, it is clear, had but one kind of answer to return; and accordingly they did return it, after their courtly and circumlocutory manner.—I say nothing of the Duke of YORK on the occasion:—he is only the medium of the correspondence,—the statue on which the respective parties have gone and stuck their letters,—the advertising channel, in which P. R. requests an answer of L. G, an interview not being convenient.

REPLY OF LORDS GREY AND GRENVILLE.

February 15, 1812.

SIR,—We beg leave most humbly to express to your Royal Highness our dutiful acknowledgements for the gracious and condescending manner in which you have had the goodness to communicate to us the Letter of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, on the subject of the arrangements to be now made for the future Administration of Public Affairs; and we take the liberty of availing ourselves of your gracious permission to address to your Royal Highness in this form what has occurred to us in consequence of that communication. The Prince Regent, after expressing to your Royal Highness in that letter his sentiments on various public matters, has, in the concluding paragraph, condescended to intimate his wish that some of those persons with whom the early habits of his public life were formed, would strengthen his Royal Highness's hands, and constitute a part of his Government; and his Royal Highness is pleased to add, that with such support, aided by a vigorous and united Administration, formed on the most liberal basis, he would look with additional confidence to the prosperous issue of the most arduous contest in which Great Britain has ever been engaged. On the other parts of his Royal Highness's letter we do not presume to offer any observations; but in the concluding paragraph, in so far as we may venture to suppose ourselves included in the gracious wish which he expresses, we owe it, in obedience and duty to his Royal Highness, to explain ourselves with frankness and sincerity. We beg leave most earnestly to assure his Royal Highness, that no sacrifices, except those of honour and duty, could appear to us too great to be made, for the purpose of healing the divisions of our country, and uniting both its Government and its People. All personal exclusion we entirely disclaim: we rest on public measures; and it is on this ground alone that we must express, without reserve, the impossibility of our uniting with the present Government. Our differences of opinion are too many and too important to admit of such an union. His Royal Highness will, we are confident, do us the justice to remember, that we have twice already acted on this impression; in 1809, on the proposition then made to us under his Majesty's authority; and last year, when his Royal Highness was pleased to require our advice respecting the formation of a new Government. The reasons which we then humbly submitted to him are strengthened by the increasing dangers of the times; nor has there, down to this moment, appeared any approximation towards such an agreement of opinion on the public interests, as can alone form a basis for the honourable union of parties previously opposed to each other. Into the details of those differences we are unwilling to enter; they embrace almost all the leading features of the present policy of the Empire; but his Royal Highness has, himself, been pleased to advert to the late deliberations of Parliament on the affairs of Ireland. This is a subject, above all others, important in itself, and connected with the most pressing dangers. Far from concurring in the sentiments which his Majesty's Ministers have, on that occasion, so recently expressed, we entertain opinions directly opposite: we are firmly persuaded of the necessity of a total change in the present system of Government in that country—and of the immediate repeal of those civil disabilities under which so large a portion of his Majesty's subjects still labour on account of their religious opinions. To recommend to Parliament this repeal, is the first advice which it would be our duty to offer to his Royal Highness, nor could we, even for the shortest time, make ourselves responsible for any further delay in the proposal of a measure, without which we could entertain no hope of rendering ourselves useful to his Royal Highness, or to our country. We have only further to beg your Royal Highness to lay before his Royal Highness the Prince Regent the expression of our humble duty, and the sincere and respectful assurance of our earnest wishes for whatever may best promote the ease, honour, and advantage of his Royal Highness's Government, and the success of his endeavours for the public welfare.—We have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) GREY.
GRENVILLE.

To his Royal Highness the Duke of York.

A person of common sense and impartiality might rest here, and as far as appearances can explain things, be satisfied with what he has heard and read: for it is impossible that any such person can have more than one opinion of this sudden change in the PRINCE's feelings.—*Change*, perhaps, I ought not to say, and *feelings* is an indefinite sort of term;—but he will know what I mean. As to the *Morning Chronicle*, though not very impartial on the subject, it has evidently made up its mind on a single perusal of the letter. It has not even thought it necessary to make a single comment upon the contents, except by putting into Italics the six words that are so marked in the text,—a touch by no means wanting in significancy. However, as the Ministerialists chuse to grow wanton in praise of the Epistle,—as they extol to the skies the "patriotism" and "magnanimity" of the writer, and lift up their hands and eyes in astonishment at the conduct of Lords GREY and GRENVILLE "in rejecting the gracious overture;"—as they assure us moreover that *the whole country* doats upon the PRINCE REGENT, and that it were a "*calumny* upon Parliament and People" to suppose that they had not every confidence in him,—leaving us, of course, to conclude, that to doubt the fine features in the PRINCE's character, is to doubt the beauty of virtue or the immutability of truth;—it may be as well just to point out a few little blots and contradictions in this beautiful specimen of Royal letter-writing; or in other words,—just to prove to the reader, that the whole Epistle is a mass of inconsistency and subterfuge, very unworthy of any Englishman at any time, and truly deplorable as coming from an English Prince at a time like the present.

The first thing that strikes me, both in the outset of the letter and upon a general view of it, is the attempt to get over the Catholic Question,—the miserable affectation of regarding it as settled by Parliament, and as presenting therefore no obstacle to the proposed Coalition. This alone would be sufficient to condemn the whole proceeding. It was his "earnest desire," the REGENT says, "that the expected motion on the affairs of Ireland might undergo the deliberate discussion of Parliament, unmixed with any other consideration."—The motion, we know, accordingly took place; it underwent "deliberate discussion," a discussion, "unmixed," of course, "with any other consideration,"—that is to say, official interest was of no use whatever to those who opposed it! The PRINCE's unaccountable behaviour never damped the advocates of Ireland during the debate! The hopes which he had been accustomed to hold forth, and which, at the very moment when he could have realized them, he chose to hold back, never once entered into the heads of any of the Members! The discussion was all deliberate, all unbiassed and unmingled; and if the motion was lost, what had the PRINCE to do with it! Evidently nothing. He, innocent soul, could not help himself:—the *Parliament* chose to settle the matter, and it is his business to acquiesce!—Oh, candid logic! Oh, perfection of honest inference! Oh, exquisite specimen of all that is consistent, decent, and true!—Arcadian souls that we are! And it is to us,—to the people of England,—that this sort of reasoning appeals for relief! To a people, who have witnessed for years the parliamentary omnipotence of Ministers, and who have been expecting for years a change of politics when the PRINCE came to the throne, solely because they knew that another Ministry could affect it!—So much for the Catholic Question, and all that the PRINCE has to do with it. What the *Irish* will think of this death to their hopes, it would be difficult, perhaps dangerous, to describe.—To proceed then. His ROYAL HIGHNESS, having shewn to our satisfaction why he cannot take the Foxites for his Ministers, proceeds to give a similar explanation of his reasons for retaining the Pittites: and repeats, in the first place, that it was "his sense of duty alone to his Royal Father which decided his choice" of them at the commencement of the Regency. This repetition rather startles us at first in the way of argument; and we become eager to know how it is, if duty alone decided the choice originally, that his ROYAL HIGHNESS adheres to the choice when duty is no longer the consideration. But let us not be impatient. His ROYAL HIGHNESS discovers that "a new æra is now arrived."—Well,—says the Reader,—but could not a new æra arrive, and be met by a new Ministry?—Yes; but then his ROYAL HIGHNESS adds, that "he cannot but reflect with satisfaction on the events which have distinguished the short period of his restricted Regency."—Well; but cannot events distinguish him hereafter, as well as they have done of late?—Yes; but then he informs us, that during that period "Great Britain has added most important acquisitions to her empire." Well; but could not his old friends hereafter assist him in similar acquisitions to the Empire? Yes; but, my good Reader, you do not perceive that the present friends are *tried* ones,—his ROYAL HIGHNESS has had experience of them for *a whole year*, and that of course he cannot think of sacrificing them to men whom he has only known and professed to love from a child. Besides, "the National Faith," we see, has been preserved inviolate towards our Allies; we have been getting a great "character" on the Continent; and as "perseverance alone can atchieve the great object" in that quarter, his ROYAL HIGHNESS "cannot withhold his approbation from those who have honourably distinguished themselves in support of it."—It is in vain to reply to all this, that the Whigs regard constitutional faith to the Irish Catholics as of more consequence than the promises of a fluctuating Administration to the Spanish Catholics;—it is in vain to reply, that whatever some of the Whigs may think of continuing the war in Spain,—*all* do not differ with its propriety;—it is in vain to reply, that if the PRINCE REGENT approves the Ministry at this present time for their exertion in Spain, he ought to have approved them for the same reason a long time ago:—every objection vanishes, every truth is confounded, every reply is struck dumb on coming to those memorable words which the *Chronicle* has put in Italics; "I have *no predilections* to indulge."—Here we find at once, that all which has been said about the PRINCE's attachment to certain men, was idle talk: he assures us himself, that he has "no predilections," and consequently he never liked one set of men or of measures more than another:—he used to chat with Mr. FOX, but nothing more; he has expressed dislike of Mr. PITT, but it was only in a passing way; he has flattered the hopes of the Irish, but good nature demanded it; he has publicly declared that he brings up his Daughter in Whig principles, but then it was after dinner. Here then the mystery might be at an end, and every body might see the reasonableness, consistency, and magnanimity, of his ROYAL HIGHNESS, as well as those perspicacious papers the *Courier* and *Morning Post*; but two little points still remain, which none of these brilliant arguments can clear up. We are told that his ROYAL HIGHNESS has "no predilections" to indulge; be it so;—but why then, in the first place, does he conclude the very letter, in which he uses this phrase, with a wish to be strengthened by "those with whom the early habits of his public life were formed;"—and why, in the second place, if he would have us believe him still attached to the cause of Irish Emancipation, does he retain in his service the very men who detest it, when he could procure others, *of neither party*, to carry on his government as he pleased?

An answer to these questions must be found elsewhere than in the REGENT's public life, notwithstanding it's fertility of illustration; and certainly nothing has transpired to diminish the suspicions already expressed by this Paper,

that the present mystery of things is owing almost entirely to his Royal Highness's private circumstances. It is true, the manners of the present Ministry, and their mode of conducting business, may not have been found so unpleasant upon experience, as his Royal Highness might have been led to imagine; and the Catholic question, to a mind apparently so unthinking, may really be no matter of concern whatever; but it is difficult to believe that his Royal Highness could walk out of the beat of his old political habits without some particular and secret reasons for so doing; and the mystery is hardly to be elucidated by those who seem inclined to think that he has been playing a jesuitical part all his life; for though there is a good deal of cant in party politics, and still more in the glozing and manners which are supposed to adorn a Prince, yet the performance of so long and difficult a deception neither belongs to his cast of mind, nor could have served one real purpose, beyond a popularity which had nothing to give him. Neither does the *Morning Chronicle*, in its eagerness to retaliate on a Prince whom it has hitherto professed to think all that is good and great, furnish any reasonable clue to the secret in its bad jokes about Manchester webs and Manchester manufactories; for whatever sorry attachments the Prince may have, and however they may influence him in many points, as they undoubtedly will, yet what point of contact is there between the Hertford family and the Perceval Administration? I do not dispute, that an attachment to the former, acting upon predisposing causes, may have helped to influence the PRINCE's decision against a change of system; but those causes, I am persuaded, are to be sought elsewhere; and it is a lamentable thing to say, that never was there a period in the annals of our royal houses, not even the reign of CHARLES the Second, which required so much of secret history to explain it. That such is the case, nobody can deny, unless he is prepared to convince us, that long attachments and habits are to be broken without a cause, and that the PRINCE of WALES comes to the throne quite unembarrassed,—unembarrassed in friends, unembarrassed in *pocket*, unembarrassed in *family*. The reader recollects the protestations of delicacy with which an inquiry into his Royal Highness's debts was resisted the other day in Parliament, though the object of it was to place him comfortably and independently on the throne. He will call to mind also the hue and cry after a certain "book," for a lurking copy of which, I understand, two thousand pounds were given but the other day. It is in these financial and family annoyances, with a ray of light let in upon them from the "separate Court," that the whole mystery of things is likely to be found; and having said thus much to save my credit as an Examiner, and to give the reader a moral hint or two upon matters which others affect to consider as wholly political, I escape for the present from this humiliating and afflicting subject.

APPENDIX.

The following Articles form a very proper APPENDIX to the PRINCE's Letter:—

Letter of the Prince Regent to Mr. Perceval, dated Carlton House, Feb. 4, 1811.

The Prince of Wales considers the moment to be arrived which calls for his decision with respect to the persons to be employed by him in the administration of the Executive Government of the country, according to the powers vested in him by the Bill passed by the two Houses of Parliament, and now on the point of receiving the sanction of the Great Seal.

The Prince feels it incumbent upon him, at this precise juncture, to communicate to Mr. Perceval his intention not to remove from their stations those whom he finds there, as his Majesty's official servants. At the same time *the Prince owes it to the truth and sincerity of character, which, he trusts, will appear in every action of his life, in whatever situation placed*, explicitly to declare, that the irresistible impulse of filial duty and affection to his beloved and afflicted Father, leads him to dread that any act of the Regent might, in the smallest degree, have the effect of interfering with the progress of his Sovereign's recovery. *This consideration alone dictates the decision now communicated to Mr. Perceval.*

Having thus performed an act of indispensible duty, from a just sense of what is due to his own *consistency* and *honour*, the Prince has only to add, that, among the many blessings to be derived from his Majesty's restoration to health, and to the personal exercise of his Royal Functions, it will not, in the Prince's estimation, be the least, that that most fortunate event will at once rescue him from a situation of unexampled embarrassment, AND PUT AN END TO A STATE OF AFFAIRS, ILL CALCULATED, HE FEARS, TO SUSTAIN THE INTERESTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, IN THIS AWFUL AND PERILOUS CRISIS, AND MOST DIFFICULT TO BE RECONCILED TO THE GENUINE PRINCIPLES OF THE BRITISH CONSTITUTION.

Morning Chronicle's Report of the Prince's Speech at the Anniversary of his Daughter's Birthday.

"The Duke of York gave the health of the Princess Charlotte of Wales, which was drunk with enthusiasm, and in the true English style, with three times three. We understand, the Prince, in returning thanks for this mark of respect to the object of his pride and tenderness, said in a short but most eloquent address, That he had made it his first care to instil into the mind and heart of his daughter the knowledge and love of the true principles of the British constitution; and he had pointed out to her young understanding, AS A MODEL FOR STUDY, the political conduct of his most revered and lamented friend, MR. FOX, who had asserted and maintained, with such transcendant force, the just principles upon which the government, under this excellent constitution, ought to be administered, for the true and solid dignity of the crown, and the real security, freedom, and happiness of the people. He had the most heartfelt enjoyment in knowing, that even in her present early years, his daughter had a just conception of the value of the precepts which had been implanted in her breast; and he would say with confidence, that she would fulfil all the duties which she might be called upon to discharge, when his bones were laid in the grave."

We are aware, indeed, there are those who *libel* his Royal Highness by *whispering* it about, that the REGENT will not only retain PERCEVAL, but adopt his politics. Every feature in the character of his Royal Highness is a denial of this slander.—Yet, were we destitute of all other refutation, we should found it in our opinion of HUMAN NATURE, which is too exalted to permit us to suppose, that any common man, much less that a great and ILLUSTRIOUS PRINCE, would in *one year* relinquish all those enlightened principles of patriotism, of liberality, and benevolence upon which he had acted for *fifty!*—*Dublin Evening Post, Feb.* 18.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

OFFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FROM THE IMPERIAL ARMIES IN SPAIN.

REPORT OF THE DUKE OF RAGUSA TO THE PRINCE OF WAGRAM AND NEUFCHATEL, MAJOR-GENERAL.

Valladolid, Jan. 16.

MONSEIGNEUR,—I have the honour of informing your Excellency, that I yesterday evening received accounts of the English having suddenly united, and on the 8th passed the Agueda, after having formed a bridge of boats two leagues above the place, with the besieging artillery. On the 10th the place was invested and the siege immediately commenced. I lost not a moment in marching to the relief of the place. I had collected four divisions for the purpose of re-victualling Ciudad Rodrigo, but these forces were not now sufficient. I was therefore obliged to call two divisions of the Army of the North, and Bonnet's division, which I ordered to quit Asturias. These together, amounted to nearly 60,000 men, with which I marched against the enemy. You may expect happy and glorious events for the French arms. My army will be united on the 21st. As I ordered Gen. Montbrun to return the latter end of January, I do not expect he will join me before February. He has under his orders three divisions, and part of my cavalry.

MARSHAL DUKE OF RAGUSA.

SECOND REPORT.

Salamanca, Jan. 18.

MONSEIGNEUR,—I have the honour of acquainting you, the moment I arrived here, that according to the accounts which I have received, the suburbs of Rodrigo, as well as a redoubt I ordered to be constructed, were, on the 10th inst., carried by surprise. This is an unfortunate circumstance, as I always considered these works would require a siege, and give us eight or ten days. On the other hand, I am informed, that the first pieces of the besieging artillery only passed the Agueda on the 14th. In waiting the junction of troops, which are marching from different places, I have pushed a strong advance guard as near as possible to the town, in order to have it understood we are marching to its succour.

THIRD REPORT.—FROM THE SAME TO THE SAME.

On the 10th at night the enemy appeared before Ciudad Rodrigo, and took possession of the Convents in the suburbs. On the 16th the English batteries opened their fire at a great distance; and, on the 19th, the place was taken by assault, and fell into the power of the enemy. There is in this event something so incomprehensible, that I will not permit myself to make any observation on it. I have not yet received the necessary information.

FOURTH REPORT.—FROM THE SAME TO THE SAME.

Salamanca, Jan. 24.

I had concerted with Gen. Dorsenne for the junction of our troops; but the hopes I had conceived of seeing the enemy's army, proud of a first success, remain beyond the Agueda, quickly vanished. The reconnoitring parties which I dispatched informed me, that the enemy's corps that had marched upon Tamames, and which they considered as the united army, had fallen back upon the Agueda, crossed that river, and re-entered Portugal, after carrying away the bridges. The English have taken away part of the heavy artillery of the place to transport it to Almeida. No English troops have been left at Ciudad Rodrigo.

ARMY OF PORTUGAL.

On the 13th of December, the Duke of Ragusa considered it expedient to dispatch General Montbrun, with three divisions of infantry, a division of cavalry, and 30 pieces of artillery, to march by Albaute upon Valencia, and reinforce Marshal Suchet. The march of Gen. Montbrun having been unfortunately retarded by counter-orders, this General only arrived at Almanza on the 11th of January. Valencia was taken. Gen. Montbrun continued his march towards Alicant, defeating several insurgent corps. On the 25th he arrived on the Tijo, to rejoin the army. The Duke of Ragusa wishing to relieve the garrison of Ciudad Rodrigo, and revictual that fortress, set out from Toledo the beginning of January, with four divisions of his army, taking the direction of Valladolid, but Ciudad Rodrigo had been invested by the English since the 9th. Lord Wellington, wishing to make a diversion in favour of Valencia, passed the Agueda. The redoubt and convent which defended the approaches to the town, were surprised, and it appears the town was taken on the 19th, the breach having been practicable. By a culpable negligence of the Governor of Salamanca, the garrison of Ciudad Rodrigo had been without communication for two months. Originally 1400 strong, it was reduced by sickness, and by the surprise of the convent, to 900 men.—The General of Brigade, Barrie, was Governor. We are not yet sufficiently acquainted with the details of this event to form an opinion of it. The Duke of Ragusa having arrived at Salamanca, with four divisions of his army, two divisions drawn from the Army of the North, and Bonnet's division, which he withdrew from the Asturias, independently of the division which he had left on the Tijo, marched towards the English to give them battle; but Lord Wellington had already re-crossed the Agueda, destroyed the bridges, and re-entered Portugal, after performing this coup-de-main.

ARMY OF VALENCIA.

The disarming of the Militia of Valencia goes on rapidly; by the returns of the Duke D'Albufera, forty thousand English muskets, an enormous quantity of bayonets, pistols, &c. have been delivered to the French artillery. Many stores of uniforms, both for cavalry and infantry, have been discovered, as also of ready made cloathing, and of red cloth intended for the use of the army. A contribution of two hundred millions of reals had been imposed on the province of Valencia. The city has besides supplied us with 400 mules, completely harnessed for the service of the artillery. The Archbishop of Valencia, a most respectable man, who, together with the principal nobility of the country and the Magistrates, had for a long time trembled at the atrocities and abuses of all kinds committed by a frantic Junta, have re-entered the city, where they have no longer to dread the yoke of unavoidable terror: 1500 infuriated Monks have been arrested and sent to France. The Chiefs of the insurgents who frequented the house of the English Consul, as well as assassins attached to that despicable being, have been executed in the public squares, to the great satisfaction of all the good inhabitants who had not been participants in the assassinations of the French. The cities of Aleria, Saint Philip, Grandia, and Denia, have submitted to us; in the last place we found sixty pieces of cannon; it is a very strong place, on the sea coast, at the distance of twenty leagues from Alicant, and near to Cape Martin.

[Under the head of "Army of the South," an account is given of the proceedings against Tarifa, and their failure attributed to not having sounded the fosse, and the continual rains which rendered the arrival of provisions impossible.—Under the title of Catalonia there is a long Report from General Decaen, in which he says, that having been informed that the enemy had assembled the greatest part of his forces in the vicinity of Tarragona, and with the assistance of the English, intending to insult that fortress, he marched against and defeated them with the loss of 2000 men in killed, wounded, and taken prisoners, and all their artillery.]

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

A man of the name of *Melling*, who formerly kept a public-house in Wigan, but who lately removed to Liverpool, being on his death-bed, last week, sent for a clergyman, and told him he could not die till he confessed a murder committed by his son (since dead) and himself, on two recruits quartered in his house, one night, about ten years ago, when his son returned from robbing a mail. Fearing they might lead to a discovery, they determined to murder them, which they did, and buried them in the garden. This confession was sent to the Magistrates of Wigan, who, on Monday, caused search to be made, and on Tuesday the remains were found near the place described by the murderer.

On Tuesday an Inquest was held at Otley, in Yorkshire, on the body of a gentleman, who, on the preceding Sunday, had put a period to his existence by a pistol. It appeared that he first came to Otley in April and had divided the intermediate time between that place, Harrogate, and Thorp-arch, visiting each alternately. He avoided all society, and devoted the whole of his time to deeds of charity, never suffering a day to pass without distributing from one to fifty pounds. On the Sabbath he generally confined himself to the house, avoiding religiously every secular pursuit. On the Friday before his death he came from Thorp-arch to Otley. On his arrival, the people at the inn observed a considerable change in him, his spirits were more depressed. Verdict—*Lunacy*. He left a particular request to be buried in the church-yard at Kirby Overblow, and he was there interred on Wednesday last.

It is really lamentable that the conductors of the vehicles on road, persist, in defiance of every remonstrance, to sport with the most sacred trust that can be reposed in man. We learn from Wisbeach, that, on Saturday last, two of the London waggons (on their return to that place) ran a race against each other; the consequence of which improper conduct was, that Mr. Newman's waggon was overturned into a ditch, with six women and a boy. One woman had her collar bone broken, and another was very much hurt. They were all plunged over head and ears into the water. A lad who sometimes drives, but who was in the waggon at the time of the disaster, had a narrow escape with his life: he was pulled out for dead, but hopes are entertained of his recovery.—*Stamford News.*

That a want of employment, and misery, are on the daily increase, the following extract from the *Liverpool Mercury*, of the 31st of last month, affords a melancholy but undeniable proof:—

Committee Room, 30th January, 1812.

STATEMENT OF THE NUMBER OF THE POOR RELIEVED.

	Families.	Persons.
In the week ending the 3d of Jan.	2263 consisting of	8288
10th	3156	11,265
17th	3824	13,856
24th	4248	15,350

A shocking proof of the *increase of Paupers* in one month, from 8288 to 15,350 persons, independent of those already supported from the parish rates!—Reports of like distress are heard from other manufacturing towns in Lancashire, Yorkshire, Staffordshire, Nottinghamshire, as well as from Glasgow, Paisley, and many other places.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Nothing of interest occurred in this House last week.—A Message from the Regent was received, respecting Lord Wellington, which will be found in the House of Commons Report,—and their Lordships approved of the recommendation it contained.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, Feb. 17.

GENERAL SARAZIN.

Lord COCHRANE said, he held in his hand a Petition from General Sarazin, setting forth the information which that person had communicated to his Majesty's Ministers on various subjects connected with the probable views of the enemy against this country, and praying that the House would take his case into consideration, and grant him such pecuniary consideration as they might deem proper.

The SPEAKER wished to know whether the application had received the assent of his Majesty's Ministers? As the Noble Lord had stated enough of the Petition to shew that it was an application for money, it must receive the previous coment of the Crown. The standing orders of the House were peremptory on that subject.

To this no answer was returned by the Noble Lord.

LOCAL MILITIA.

The House went into a Committee of Supply, in which Lord PALMERSTONE moved, that 100,000*l.* be voted for defraying the charge of the Local Militia from Dec. 25, 1811, to December 24, 1812, inclusive.—Agreed to.

FRAME-BREAKERS' BILL.

Mr. Secretary RYDER moved the second reading of the Bill for the more exemplary punishing the destroyers of stocking and lace-frame works.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Capt. HERBERT, Sir S. ROMILLY, Mr. C. WYNNE, Sir A. PIGOTT, and Mr. WHITBREAD, opposed the Bill. Sir SAMUEL observed, that the four species of crime contemplated by the Bill were, 1st, entering houses by force, and destroying machines; 2d, entering houses by force, with intent to destroy them; 3d, willfully, and maliciously cutting in pieces machines; and the 4th, destroying any utensil, instrument, &c. belonging to the machinery. Would the House believe it, and yet it was true, that not one of those crimes partook of the dreadful nature of the evil complained of; and which evil was, as it was likened to high treason, *a conspiracy to destroy all frames.* According to the present Bill, an idle apprentice, who, from a quarrel with his master, or any other cause, should break or destroy the machinery of his master, or the slightest utensil connected with it, might be capitally convicted under it.—Sir SAMUEL was confident that it would, in after times, astonish an English House of Commons, to find, upon inspection of the Journals, that, in a case of life and death, the Legislators who now exist had, upon only a few minutes consideration, come to the resolution of adopting a measure of such importance.—And Mr. WHITBREAD was equally averse to the Bill, because it extended the long list of our capital punishments. In his opinion, the great defect of the Legislature of this country for the last century had been, that when they found the people prone to the commission of crimes, they, in order to put a stop to them, enacted the penalty of death, by which offenders had escaped punishment almost as much as if no law had been enacted at all. He was particularly averse from going forward with the present Bill without inquiry, because the present was a period of tranquillity in Nottingham; and there was, in consequence, no cause for haste. The Statute Book teemed with sentences inflicting the penalty of death; and he thought it was a subject the revision of which would well become the policy as well as the humanity of the House.

The Bill was supported by Mr. J. SMITH, Mr. FRANKLAND, Mr. LOCKHART, Mr. BATHURST, and Mr. RYDER, who said, it should be remembered that this was only intended as a temporary measure to meet a pressing temporary evil; and the hope was, that the terror of death might put a speedy end to the present unlawful and alarming proceedings in Nottingham, and the neighbouring counties. He felt very highly gratified by what had been said by an Honourable Gentleman on the opposite side of the House (Mr. J. Smith), that Ministers had acted with promptness, and taken every step in their power, both by the civil and military authority, to put an early period to the disturbances. He was convinced also, that the conduct of the Magistrates in that county had been exemplary, and those of the town of Nottingham in particular.—Mr. FRANKLAND, too, denied, that our statutes were more replete with the penalty of death than the laws of any other country. He ridiculed the puling humanity of those who had argued so often that death should not be inflicted but in one case, grounded on the Leyitical Law, which said, that "whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed." But there was another part of that same law, which, in case of disobedience of children to their parents, condemned them to be stoned to death. He thought this Bill, when passed into a law, modified as it would of course be in the Committee, might be of great benefit. The deluded disturbers of the peace and destroyers of property must see that the Legislature had interposed—they must see that the Legislature had spoken; and, after that, they could not but see that if they persisted, they

casion on which these wounds were received, and the circumstances which occurred, have excited the admiration of every officer in the army, I cannot report his death to your Lordship without expressing my sorrow and regret, that his Majesty has been deprived of the services, and I of the assistance, of an officer of tried talents and experience, who was an ornament to his profession, and was calculated to render the most important services to his country.—I have the honour to be, &c.

WELLINGTON.

Extract of a Dispatch from General the Earl of Wellington, dated Gallegos, January 29th, 1812.

Marshal Marmont arrived at Salamanca on the 22d inst. and the six divisions of infantry of the army of Portugal were collected in the neighbourhood of Alba and Salamanca on the 23d and 24th.

"General Souham's division, with about six hundred cavalry, and some artillery, were sent to Matilla on the 23d, and patroled to San Munoz and Tamames. The movement of this division was intended to ascertain the fact of the fall of Ciudad Rodrigo, and they retired again to the Tormes on the 26th.

"We have been employed in repairing the damages which our fire had done to Ciudad Rodrigo. For some days it has not been possible to take the place by a coup-de-main; and I hope in a short time the works will be in a good state of defence.

This Gazette contains the following general total of the Killed and Wounded at the late capture of Ciudad Rodrigo;—1 General Staff, 5 Captains, 2 Lieutenants, 9 Serjeants, 1 Drummer, 131 Rank and File, killed; 3 General Staff, 1 Lieutenant-Colonel, 2 Majors, 20 Captains, 31 Lieutenants, 5 Ensigns, 2 Staff, 29 Serjeants, 5 Drummers, 404 Rank and File, wounded; 7 Rank and File, missing.—It also states the capture of the French brig privateer La Gazelle, of 14 carronades, 12 and 9-pounders, coppered, with 91 men, by the Leonidas, Capt. Griffiths.

BANKRUPTCY ENLARGED.

W. and W. Lushington, Mark-lane, merchants, from Feb. 25, to April 14.

BANKRUPTS.

J. Tims, Worcester, carpenter.
J. Newton and G. Lomas, Stockport, cornfactors.
R. R. Day, Hoxton, candlewick-manufacturer.
W. and J. Clark, Kingsand, Devon, slopsellers.
J. Lomax, Liverpool, shoemaker.
J. Hewitt, St. James's-street, engraver.
W. J. Donne, Great Russell-street, haberdasher.
T. Chalmers, Wormwood-street, warehouseman.
J. Sexton, Stanmore, Middlesex, baker.
J. Child, Crutched-friars, victualler.
G. Mackenzie, Derby, salesman.
D. Lewis, Milford, Pembrokeshire, shopkeeper.
J. Watson, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, miller.
E. Thomas, Helston, Cornwall, spinster, shopkeeper.
T. Gooch, Exeter, grocer.
R. Page, Lutley, Worcestershire, miller.
T. Cartwright, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, cheesefactor.
C. Skirrow, Lancaster, grocer.
J. Roche, Nicholas-lane, merchant.
J. Calder, Powick, Worcestershire, dealer.

The River Fencibles have consented to assist in the obnoxious service of the Impress. On Thursday they commenced their operations on the River Thames, when about 200 unhappy men were forcibly dragged from their employments and connexions, and sent on board the tender.—What a blessing must those men and their families think the British Constitution!

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

3 per Cent. Cons. . . 62½—Omnium, ... 1 dis.

The INDEX, &c. to last year's *Examiner*, will be ready for delivery next Sunday.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 23.

THE PRINCE REGENT and the new Regency of Spain may be said to have commenced their respective offices with the same act,—that of bestowing honours on Lord WELLINGTON, who has been created an Earl by the one, and a Duke and Grandee by the other. The English title retains the name of WELLINGTON; the Spanish one is the Dukedom of CIUDAD RODRIGO, which is at least as good a one at present, though not quite so promising, as that of ABRANTES belonging to JUNOT:—the chief privilege of a Grandee of the first class, is to set covered in the presence of the Spanish Monarch, an honour which his Lordship is about as likely to enjoy as he is to shake hands with the Man in the Moon. Few persons will quarrel with such rewards, or object even to the additional sum which is voted by Parliament to support the Earldom; for though his Lordship is rather a patient and brave officer, than a great one, yet he actually does something for his money;—he undergoes a toil for it, and to a certain degree has upheld the British reputation in arms; and really, when it is considered how titles and possessions have been thrown away of late years, a man who has any pretensions whatsoever must be highly distinguished, in order to be distinguished at all. The general folly of being lavish is another matter, and has been deplored till one is tired of deploring; but if LAKES and GAMBIERS are made Barons, it is hardly too much to make the obstructor of French Generals an Earl.

A rumour of peace with Sweden was circulated in the course of the week, and it really appears that amicable overtures have been made by BERNADOTTE to the PRINCE REGENT; but how far they can be called overtures for peace is doubtful, since we are not actually at war with Sweden:—on the contrary, we have suffered the Charge d'Affaires to reside among us, till he could conveniently resume his functions, as he is now understood to have done; and our Ministers always appeared to have a more reasonable appreciation of affairs in that country, than they chose to make public,—I mean respecting the demands of all ranks of people for a more sane government, and the subsequent deposition of GUSTAVUS. The rumour of peace however is contradictory to another rumour that accompanied it, of a proposal of Swedish mediation between England and France. The latter would not be at all improbable at our present point of time, and it will be somewhat surprising indeed if BONAPARTE himself make no direct offer of negociation; he knows how to make use of rejections on these occasions, and has a good

opportunity of saying a few fine things to the Prince Regent; though perhaps the retention of Ministers will astound him as much as it does others. But the proposal of amicable intercourse on the part of Bernadotte could only arise from some offence taken by him against Napoleon,—the occupation, for instance, of Swedish Pomerania; whereas that of mediation is the part of a mutual friend, or would appear rather as if he were taking up the old trick of his former master, and acting for him when the latter did not chuse to come forward. Whatever may be the case, the odds are evidently against our Court, as far as ruling talent is concerned.

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The American Papers contain some further correspondence between Mr. Foster and Mr. Munro. The President, in transmitting this Correspondence to Congress, remarks, that "it affords continued evidence of the hostile policy of the British Government."—The Bill authorizing the importation of goods from England, purchased previously to the 2d of July last, has been arrested in its progress, and an opinion seems to have prevailed that it would not pass.—The Act for raising an army of 25,000 men has received the President's signature, and so has the Bill for enrolling 50,000 volunteers: but a proposition for building additional frigates was rejected.—Upon the whole, there can be little doubt that a war with America will take place, unless the Orders in Council are given up.

"Government have received dispatches from America. They breathe a more hostile spirit than from other considerations there was reason to expect."—*Courier.*

The French Navy is increasing to an enormous extent. Bonaparte has now nearly 100 sail of the line ready for sea.—Should Ministers provoke a war with the United States, thousands of American seamen will enter into the service, and the most fearful and bloody conflicts will be the consequence.

The Marquis Wellesley has not only resigned, but is to be succeeded by Lord Castlereagh.—Another Walcheren Expedition may therefore be expected.

"Yesterday (Friday) evening," says the *Times*," Mr. "Benjamin Walsh was discharged from Newgate, in consequence of a *Pardon* granted by his Royal Highness the Prince Regent."—Mr. Drakard publishes a paper against Military Torture and remains in prison;—Mr. Walsh, a Member of Parliament, robs his Employer, and is pardoned!!—What next?

There is a Bill now before the House, brought in by Mr. Whitbread, for altering the late Act of Parliament respecting the building Drury-lane Theatre. It is to be hoped that some Member will feel it his duty to see that the proposed alterations are not injurious to the interests of the Creditors, which have been sufficiently disregarded already.

The British military force at the commencement of the present year, amounted to 296,108 men, of whom 143,068 were at home, and 153,040 on foreign service.

Orders have been issued to ballot for the Local Militia for the county of Middlesex. The number required for the county is 10,000, between the ages of 16 and 30.

A constant reader wishes to be informed on what principle *one shilling* is required from persons who apply, on Sundays, for admission to the *Chapel Royal*, St. James's.

"With respect to the rumour of a Treaty of Peace having been concluded with Sweden,—of Mr. Thornton having transmitted it,—and of a Swedish Ambassador having actually arrived, we have to state that Mr. Thornton has been for some time in this country; and that no Swedish Ambassador is arrived. That it is true a Swedish Messenger has brought some communication to the Swedish Resident, which is said to relate to a proposal for a Truce between the two countries,—a proposal which will not meet with any difficulties or obstacles on our parts; but as to its tending to any mediation for a general Peace, Sweden being the mediator, the idea cannot be entertained for a moment."—*Courier.*

Escaped from his Friends, on the 18th or 19th instant (Feb.), on being let loose, a young Man, who is supposed to have lost himself.—N. B. He is the same person who, a few years ago, had an *ESCAPE* at Newmarket.

"Can the Ethiop alter her skin, or the leopard his spots?"

A single copy of a book, printed under Mr. Perceval's eye four years ago, containing the Report of the Commissioners who inquired into the conduct of the Princess of Wales, has lately been purchased, it is said, for two thousand pounds. Several copies had been before bought up at 500*l.* each; and it is not at all unlikely, that, since the destruction of the work by Mr. Perceval's desire (a few copies having escaped the flames), some artful person has reprinted it, and is reaping an enormous profit by producing now and then a copy.—What can be the contents of a book, which it was once the design of Mr. Perceval to publish, but which he is now so anxious to annihilate?

A paragraph, from a Correspondent, appeared in the *Examiner* a short time back, complaining of the mode of receiving fees in the India-House, and stating that a book was thrust upon the Cadets, which was of no more service to them than the Koran.—Now, respecting the system of *fees*, there can be but one opinion,—that it is a most improper one, equally degrading to the Company and to its servants, who should receive a specific sum for specific services. As to the book mentioned (the *East-India Register*), there appears to be a difference of judgment; for some persons think that the work is very useful, if not absolutely necessary, to those who visit the Indian Peninsula; though it must be admitted that there is something of indelicacy in its being offered and recommended to the young men by the Proprietor, who holds an office in the India-House. If the work is a useful one, it will be readily sought out by those who want its aid.

Mr. Madocks, M. P. the spirited and extensive encloser of land from the sea, at Tré Madock, in the county of Carnarvon, is about to try a question of great importance to the landed interest, viz. Whether land so enclosed is liable to the payment of tythe? By some of the first legal authorities he is supported in his own opinion, "That such land, time immemorial, having had no mark of boundary at high water, must of necessity have been extra-parochial, and consequently tythe-free."

THE KING'S ILLNESS.

MEDICAL BULLETIN.

"*Windsor Castle, Feb.* 18.

"His Majesty continues nearly in the same state."

would be melancholy but just victims of their own errors and obstinacy.—On a division, there were for the second reading of the Bill, 94—Against it, 27.—Adjourned.

Tuesday, Feb. 18.

LORD WELLINGTON—EARLDOM AND PENSION.

Mr. PERCEVAL brought down the following Message from his Royal Highness the Prince Regent:—

"GEORGE P. RT.

"The Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, having taken into his royal consideration the eminent and signal services performed by General Lord Viscount Wellington, in the course of a long series of distinguished exploits in the campaigns in Spain and Portugal, and being desirous to mark the sense he entertains of services so honourable to the British Arms, and so eminently beneficial to the interests of the Nation, has conferred, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, upon General Lord Viscount Wellington, and the heirs male of his body, the rank and dignity of an Earl of the United Kingdom, by the name, style, and title of Earl of Wellington. The Prince Regent, further desirous of granting to the Earl of Wellington a net annuity of two thousand pounds, in addition to the annuity already granted by Parliament, and subject to the same limitations imposed in that grant, recommends to the House of Commons to enable his Royal Highness, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, to grant and settle such annuity, and to make such further provision aforesaid, as may be thought most effectual for the benefit of General the Earl of Wellington and his family."

Ordered to be taken into consideration on Friday.

Mr. BARING's motion for the production of papers relative to Licences was acquiesced in, with one exception.—Adjourned.

Wednesday, Feb. 19.

The Frame Breaker's Bill was read a third time.—Adjourned.

Thursday, Feb. 20.

AN UNWORTHY MEMBER.

Mr. BANKES gave notice, that on Tuesday next he should make a motion respecting an *unworthy* Member of that House.—(Here an emotion of anxiety was evinced by many "honourable" Members; but Mr. Walsh's name being whispered, all was calm.)

FRAME-BREAKER'S BILL.

This Bill was passed, after some remarks by Mr. HUTCHINSON, who considered it as an ineffectual measure. Nothing, he said, but intolerable distress would drive the manufacturing people of England,—a grave, plodding, quiet, discreet, sedate, business-involved class of men,—into lawless acts; and if the distress was too great to be borne, the Legislature was bound to interpose some remedy, and not hang men because they could not suffer beyond human nature. "The man," concluded Mr. Hutchinson, "who could repose confidence in those Ministers who have brought the country to such a state, is not only, in my opinion, incapable of forming a sane judgment, but would deserve, while he vaunted about our national prosperity, to be hung up in a cage to the gaze of the starving multitudes in this country, and himself be made the sport of those upon whose miseries he could pass so cruel a mockery.—If the Bill does pass without inquiry, I trust that the people of England will proceed to hold constitutional meetings and resort to every constitutional mode of redress. I hope they will at length make that voice be heard within these walls, which *for* so long a time has had such little influence upon our counsels."—Adjourned.

Friday, Feb. 12.

REGENT'S MESSAGE.—LORD WELLINGTON.

Mr. PERCEVAL moved, that the House should go into a Committee on the Message of his Royal Highness respecting a Pension of 2000*l.* to Lord Wellington.—Agreed to.——Mr. PERCEVAL shortly spoke upon the great propriety of the grant to his Lordship, whose merits were familiar to all.

Mr. FREEMANTLE followed in approbation.

Sir F. BURDETT, however, could not perceive the high merits of Lord Wellington. His Lordship had under him an effective force (British and Portuguese) of 108,000 troops of the line, which, with the Militia, would not amount to less than 150,000 effective men, after making every necessary deduction. With such a large force, he could not conceive how less could have been done. He could not see any cause for exultation in the state of the war in the Peninsula. Ciudad Rodrigo was so extensive as to require a garrison of 4,000 men, and at the time of its being taken it had only 1,500. It had been attacked by 12,000 men, and those were ready to be supported by the whole army. Yet this body, that was only intended to attack by way of feint, took the place. (*Hear, hear!*) That certainly shewed the weakness of the place. To call upon the country to pay for such victories as these, only shewed the state into which the country had fallen. The French General Suchet had, in the course of the present campaign, sent 47,000 men, including two General Officers, prisoners to France. Badajos was attempted to be relieved by Lord Wellington, who had lost 12,000 men in the attempt. (*Loud cries of Hear, hear!*) He was at a loss to know the reason of these cries of Hear!—he did not pretend to perfect accuracy, perhaps he might exaggerate the number; but Badajos was only 120 miles from Lisbon: the two places ought, therefore, to be balanced against each other; and Ciudad Rodrigo could always be taken. But allowing the achievement to be ever so great in itself, no one out of that House could say that it would tend to facilitate the final success. The people of England were contending for the support of despotism; wherever the English had power, the Inquisition was supported; where the French prevailed, it had been abolished. As an honest man, he must raise his voice against the proposed grant. The present state of the people of this country was an insuperable objection, had the exploit been ever so brilliant. In consequence of late excesses, the House had made what was formerly punished with transportation a capital offence. Were the successes as great as they were said to be, the country could not afford to pay for them, when our fellow-subjects wanted assistance, and had a right to expect it at our hands. The acts they had been guilty of were acts of desperation, arising from hunger and despair. But if the reverse of the picture were true,—if the country were as flourishing as it was unhappily the contrary, still there was no necessity of any application to Parliament, when the Ministers were in possession of such funds for the reward of merit,—funds which did not meet the public eye. Untill all these had been properly applied, they ought not to have come to Parliament for a new grant. The mode was quite objectionable; and until he knew that the ample funds he had alluded to had been so applied, he must give the present Resolution his decided negative.

Mr. CANNING, Sir C. BURRELL, and Lord TEMPLE, all differed with Sir Francis Burdett.—Mr. CANNING said, that the policy of the war did not at all affect the vote of that night. Consider the critical moment, when the capture of Ciudad Rodrigo had taken place; consider the talents of the rival General, and this exploit will be found to have outran not only the sanguine hopes of our Allies, but the fears of our profligate enemy. The reinvigoration of the Government of Spain had added new hope, and justified all the exultation that had been expressed. On such an occasion he could wish for a larger grant, as the present was scarcely adequate. The House should take into their consideration how much Lord Wellington had lost by rejecting foreign rewards. The house would only, by this grant, put in its claim to share with the Crown, in the prerogative of rewarding distinguished desert, and would mark, both to the present age and to posterity, their sense of the services of Lord Wellington.

The Resolution was then put and carried, with the single dissent of Sir Francis Burdett.

MONUMENT TO GENERAL CRAUFURD.

Mr. PERCEVAL wished to call the attention of the House to the merits of General Craufurd, which could not be too highly appreciated, nor his loss too much deplored. He trusted, no objection would be made to the Motion, "That a humble Address be presented to his Royal Highness, that he would be graciously pleased to direct that a Monument should be raised in St. Paul's Cathedral to the Memory of Major-

General Craufurd, and that that this House would make good the same."

Lord CASTLEREAGH observed, that the time was gone by when any addition could be made to the fame of General Craufurd. General Craufurd had served his country, and was buried at the foot of that breach he had so gallantly stormed, amidst the regrets of an illustrious army, led by its most meritorious General.

The motion was carried *nem. con.*

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.—NAVY ESTIMATES.

Mr. YORKE stated, that as the Estimates of the present year were nearly the same as those of the former, he should not have much occasion to enlarge. The ordinary and extraordinary charges were lower this year than they had been in the last by 500,000*l.* and excluding the charge of 80,000*l.* in order to form a break water in Plymouth Sound, would be less by nearly 600,000*l.* The debt was also less by betwixt 8 and 900,000*l.* than the two last years. In 1809, the debt had been 8,800,000*l.* and 2,000,000*l.* in extraordinaries, leaving a balance of upwards of 5,000,000*l.* On the 5th of last January, the debt remained upwards of 400,000*l.*; this had been owing to a more liberal provision being made by Parliament, and there being no necessity to purchase so many stores, which would require 50,000*l.* less than the total 514,000*l.*; of this, 910,000*l.* went to the ordinary charges, and 36,000*l.* for transports, not charged in the extraordinary. There was one source of expence, which would not in future be charged upon the Estimates, that of Chaplains in the Navy. It was a duty to afford religious instruction to men who would be grateful for it. This fund had fallen off, and the emolument afforded no encouragement. Four pence a man, per month, was allowed to the Chaplain, and a small pay upon the establishment; but so small as to afford no certain means of subsistence after retiring from the service. At present there were only 89 Chaplains in the Navy, and the fund for schoolmasters had equally fallen off. It was material that the younger part of the men should have the means of instruction. It was proposed that 80,000*l.* should be allowed for making the pay of Chaplains better, and for giving them an allowance, after serving a certain number of years. In this manner, they would have 214*l.* per annum. By a statute of Queen Anne they had 20*l.* per annum, and should they teach as well as officiate as Chaplains, by the stipend they would derive from their pupils, their salaries might amount to 260*l.* per annum. All Chaplains who had been eight years in extraordinary, or ten years in ordinary service, should have 5*s.* per day, and this to be compatible with church preferment, not exceeding 400*l.* per annum. In regard to the 80,000*l.* which it was intended to fund for their future advantage, it would be some time before it could be of any service to them; but he was persuaded future Parliaments would approve of its establishment. The Right Hon. Gentleman concluded by moving, "That the sum of 1,038,814*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.* be granted to his Majesty, to defray the expenses of the different Dock-yards."—The motion, after some discussion, was agreed to.

ARMY ESTIMATES.

Lord PALMERSTONE entered upon various statements of Military Expenditure.—The Militia Regimental Establishment, on the whole, he said, had incurred no charges which were not included last year. Comparing the state of the Militia this year and last year, there would be a diminution of 153,000; but last year there was a deficiency of 155,000, on account of the non-effectives. The deficiencies had arisen from volunteering into the line. In the General and Staff Officers, there had been an increase of 68,525*l.* arising from the addition of the Foreign Staff. The Home Staff had also increased. He then proceeded to state the situation of the Estimates respecting the Volunteers and Local Militia, and it appeared that some increase attached to the former, and diminution to the latter. The Military Establishments generally appeared, from the statement of the Noble Lord, to be subject to increased expences. With respect to the Casualties, they had been less than during several years past. In 1810 they had been 25,000, and last year they were not 21,000. On the whole, the amount of our force had been increased, and our casualties were not great. In the countries where the British troops had fought and conquered, the population had been anxious to join our armies; even the men under the Tyrant of France, had quitted his banners to fall into the British ranks. It was a consolatory reflection, that a struggle for the independence of a nation had been carried on with so much glory, and less casualty than the enemy had incurred.

Mr. BANKES made a few remarks, observing upon the very improper appointment of Col. M'Mahon to the Sinecure Office of Paymaster of Widows Pensions.

This called up Colonel M'MAHON, who stated that he held such appointment by the spontaneous offer of the Prince Regent, and under the will and pleasure of that House, to which he should ever most implicitly bow. The Colonel declared that his life would prove too short a span to requite, by any services, the abundant overpayment which the generous and noble heart of his Royal Master had heaped upon him for sixteen years past, in acts of kindness and affection,—which have been of so *delicate* and *peculiar* a nature, as to bind his life, heart, and soul, in eternal love and attachment towards him. The office, he said, was not a sinecure; nor was it a military, but a civil one.

After some conversation, the items passed without opposition, till the Chairman arrived at the Resolution granting 62,000*l.* to the Widows of Officers, in which the salary to the Paymaster is included, when Mr. BANKES moved an Amendment, omitting the said salary of 2000*l.* Upon which the House divided:——For the Amendment 38—Against it 54—Majority 16.

The remaining Resolutions were then agreed to, and the House adjourned till Monday.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPCY ENLARGED.

J. Mayor, Leadenhall-street, merchant, from Feb. 22, to April 11.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

C. Deale, Newgate-street, taylor.

BANKRUPTS.

T. Pringle, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, exporter of manufactured-goods.
C. Teal, Sheffield, merchant.
J. Biggs and S. Austie, St. Andrew's-hill, Doctors' Commons, ironmongers.
W. Miles, Oxford-street, furniture-warehouseman.
W. Hardy and R. Gardiner, Cheapside, merchants.
T. Neal, Cheapside, shawl-manufacturer.
J. Mook, Stillington, common-brewer.
A. Floure, Bath, lodging-house-keeper.
W. Jones, Deptford, apothecary.
W. Leech, Thetford, butcher.
J. Pickering, Kingston-upon-Hull, merchant.
E. S. Neal, Cheapside, shawl-manufacturer.
L. Jaymond, South Audley-street, milliner.
W. Gould, Upton-upon-Severn, draper.
B. Bridger, Brighthelmstone, carpenter.
G. Mackenzie, Derby, salesman.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

Downing-street, February 22, 1812.

Dispatches, of which the following are copies, have been received at the Office of the Earl of Liverpool, addressed to his Lordship by General the Earl of Wellington, K.B.

Gallegos, Jan. 29, 1812.

MY LORD,—Major-General Craufurd died on the 24th instant of the wounds which he received on the 19th, while leading the Light Division of this Army to the assault of Ciudad Rodrigo.

Although the conduct of Major-General Craufurd on the oc-

CHURCH AND KING!!

"And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his Father Amaziah had done."—II. KINGS, 15 C. 3 Verse.

SIR,—The beauty of commencing a Reign under such happy auspices is undeniable; and accordingly I am highly delighted with the felicitous selection of Mr. ASHLEY, at the Oratorio last night, which clearly exhibits the opinion of that judicious Musician, as to the nature of the holy inspiration about to be given us. It runs thus:—

CHORUS.

Around let acclamations ring,
Hail, Royal *Youth!*—Long live the King!

AIR.

Reviving Judah shall no more
Detested images adore;
We'll purge, with a reforming hand,
Idolatry from out the land;
May God, from whom all mercies spring,
Bless the true Church, and save the King!!

GRAND CHORUS.

Bless the true Church, and save the King!!!

Yes, Mr. Examiner, bless the True Church and save the King!—We may hope, shortly, to see DAVID dancing before the Ark,—the Episode of *Uriah and Bathsheba* by *Persons of Quality*,—a *numbering* of the People (by no means a Conscription)—with all those various and admirable traits, distinctive of the Operations of Grace, and peculiarly designative of a man after "God's own Heart."

HALLELUJAH—AMEN.

P. S. Although Mr. ASHLEY is evidently *gifted*, and as all the world will allow, a good musician,—yet before he proceeds further in the selection way during this same Lent, I would recommend him to consult the heads of the Scotch Universities;—they are wary men.

FINE ARTS.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, next week.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

MR. EXAMINER,—The *English Student* says, "It is always the character of envy to attribute the success of the envied to any cause but its merit." A stronger illustration of this most true observation will not be readily found, than that which occurs in the very next column, where he charges the Royal Academicians with setting up Mr. Bird as a competitor to Mr. Wilkie, though, he says, they cannot really consider him as a rival. Were I acquainted with Mr. Bird only by having seen the productions of his pencil, I should at the perusal of this passage have felt the same indignation which, as a warm admirer of his amiable character and genius, prompts me at present to appeal to your candour, by requesting you to admit this Letter into your Paper.—I am well aware of all the abuses attached to Academies as corporate bodies, and have no inclination to vindicate the Royal Academicians against the accusation, which is here employed as an introduction to a rude attack upon my friend, who possesses too much modesty to step out of his unerring path to fame for the purpose of measuring his pen with the tried weapon of his aggressor: in such a contest he would indeed prove inferior to his antagonist; nor should *I* take up the gauntlet, if his cause required the aid of very able writing. Whoever has read all the passages in the *Examiner* and in the *Reflector* where Mr. Bird is mentioned, must have perceived the glaring evidence of a systematic design to represent him, not merely as a natural rival, but as the imitator,—the *servum pecus* and the plagiary of Mr. Wilkie. From this charge I except the very fair and able critique in the *Examiner* on the first Picture exhibited by Mr. Bird in London: its excellencies were there very ably defined as well as its faults, and the comparison between the merits of the two artists was perfectly impartial, and creditable to the writer as a man and a connoisseur. Many of the numerous readers of the above publications, though admirers of the Fine Arts, may not have seen the best productions of both these artists, and if they consider you, Mr. Examiner, as I have done in every other instance, as a most excellent judge, a candid friend, and an active promoter of the Fine Arts, I am sure their opinion of Mr. Bird's merits cannot be unbiassed. To those who, uninfluenced by petty cabal, have looked at their works with the eyes of cultivated taste and unsophisticated perception of Nature, it must be indifferent what you or I think of their talents: they must have long settled the point,—that both artists are equally original, and that very few of their faults or merits are common to both. The difficulties under which an artist has laboured in acquiring his power, are not to be considered by his judges: his rank in the list of artists must be assigned to him by his works alone; but to the philosophic lover of Art, the triumphs of genius over the greatest impediments cannot fail to be interesting. Mr. Bird's fame is established by his existing works, and will certainly increase in his future productions; but the insinuations, which envy or mistaken friendship for a rival artist have thrown out against his originality, induce me to offer your readers a sketch of his rise, in which I intend to point out what I conceive to be the real defects and merits of the Pictures he has hitherto exhibited in the Metropolis.—This artist was born, and passed his early youth, under circumstances the most unfavourable to the cultivation of his intellectual power: his education never extended beyond the most common rudiments of knowledge, and ended in a japan manufactory, where he spent eight of the most precious years of his life in the slavish toil of occupations calculated to blunt the eye for the beauties of Nature,—to deprive the hand of the freedom necessary to their imitation, and to jar the taste into irretrievable barbarism and vulgarity. But nature had organized him for a Painter: his early drawings might have excited surprise had they been produced by one instructed in the art; but they were noticed only by those who could do nothing for his improvement. Disgusted with his trade, and hoping to find opportunities for study as well as means of subsistence in his favourite pursuit, he took up his abode at Bristol, where he found a small number of friends among men of taste and various talents. In their society his thirst of knowledge acquired a proper direction, though their patronage extended no farther than to introduce him as a drawing-master,—the only employment which afforded an artist a decent livelihood in a commercial city, where taste and wealth are rarely in the possession of the same individuals. To enable young masters and misses to delight their friends with neat and shewy figures and landscapes, requires a ready knack at forming pleasing patterns, and is nearly as incompatible with real Art as the labours of the japanner; and it is well known how many artists, though originally well grounded in drawing, have in their pursuit dwindled into vile manner.sts. The native

energy of Mr. Bird's genius, through the necessity of providing early for a family, rivetted him for a time more closely to the galley-work of teaching at schools and private houses, preserved him from its baneful effects on his taste. His vacations, and all his leisure hours, were indefatigably devoted to the study of Nature, and occasionally to copies from a few good works that came into his reach, and to the cultivation of every species of knowledge belonging to the qualifications of an artist. His earliest productions impressed his friends with a conviction that he would become a distinguished Painter; his compositions always possessed much truth of character; and the story of every subject was strictly told, however negligent or defective the execution might sometimes be. Whatever he could paint from Nature was exquisitely painted; so that his Furniture, Still Life, and other accessories, made him first aware, by contrast, of the faults and want of study in his principal objects: this circumstance led him to a total reform of his whole style of painting, and he soon delighted his friends with works of superior merit in various branches of composition. He has seldom aimed at giving his subjects an exclusive character of humour,—a quality which is now denied him by the *English Student*; but there are some of his paintings which abound in sterling humour, particularly one representing a mixed company raffling for a watch: this was painted some time before the fame of Mr. Wilkie had reached Bristol; and were it now placed by the side of his recent performances, it would appear very little if at all inferior to them. Notwithstanding the avidity with which this and other paintings were taken off his hands by the amateurs at Bath, Mr. Bird was restrained, by principles of prudence and of gratitude to his friends, from relinquishing the occupation of teaching, which he has not even to this day entirely given up. For a long time his best works owed their existence to his indefatigable industry during the vacations and scattered holidays. When he had composed his picture of *Good News*, and finished it as far as the long-protracted absence of his model for the principal figure would allow him, Mr. Bird, having heard so much of Mr. Wilkie, resolved to go to London for the sole purpose of seeing his pictures. I do not know whether he repeated the exclamation of Raphael's self-taught rival; but I shall never forget the rapture in which he spoke, on his return, of Mr. Wilkie's *Blind Fiddler*. He little imagined that his works would excite so much unworthy envy, which I know he can never feel. I am convinced that his journey did not occasion the slightest alteration in the design or execution of any picture he had in hand at the time. For a just opinion of the picture of *Good News*, I again refer the reader to your own review; but as Mr. Bird's talent for humour is now denied, I cannot avoid calling to their recollection the warlike joy, heightened by intoxication, in the invalid Soldier's face, and the truly comical struggle between good humour and vexation in the face and attitude of the Cobbler, who is interrupted in reading the paper by a man behind him bawling into a deaf man's ear. This picture obtained a conspicuous place at the Exhibition, and Mr. Bird felt proud and happy in its being placed near the greatest object of his admiration. If this unsolicited favour of the Royal Academicians had an opposite effect upon Mr. Wilkie's mind, I shall not envy him for his mode of feeling.—I must observe, that Mr. Wilkie at that time had not been elected R.A., and that Mr. West and Mr. Stothard were then and are to this day the only Royal Academicians, except Mr. Wilkie, that Mr. Bird is at all acquainted with. The following year Mr. Bird exhibited his *Village Choristers rehearsing at an Inn*. Though this subject offered little scope for broad humour, it was by no means deficient in it, and, like all his other performances, it is totally free from caricature, a defect which, in modern pictures of this kind, has become almost legitimate, since painters have preferred farce to real life. The pedantic attitude and dress of the Sexton, leading the band, was inimitable; the conceited expression of the tailor playing the bass, with his eyes bewildered among the notes; the lad scratching his head, ready to cry for being out, while the little girl tries to set him right; the fierce look of the woman with the squalling brat in her arms, when she is turned out of the room by the landlord;—these are traits which deserved a favourable mention, though the execution of the hands, in the subordinate figures of this picture, was not perfect. Here an opportunity was taken to accuse Mr. Bird of plagiarism, for having introduced a bird-cage, over which a handkerchief was thrown, to prevent the canary bird from adding his shrill notes to the concert, because a muffled bird-cage had appeared in Mr. Wilkie's picture of a *Sick-room*, which Mr. Bird had never seen or heard of. The advocate for Barry considers the *mechanism* of painting as being of more importance than appears consistent with his arguments against the Edinburgh Reviewer. Without disputing Wilkie's excellence in point of mechanism, I may ask, who has ever thought Mr. Bird deficient in this quality even, if the term meant nothing more than mere penciling? Whatever is meant by it can be of no importance, if it takes nothing from the merits of the drawing, the expression, the perspective, the truth of light and shade, or the colouring. Though Mr. Bird has sometimes been negligent in the drawing of some of his subordinate figures, he never sins against the probable proportions of the human figure. Huge heads upon small bodies are never seen in his pictures; but this grotesque peculiarity is observed in Mr. Wilkie's: nor does it ever appear in the works of the former that several figures in the same piece are drawn from the same model. In respect to what I understand by mechanism, I think that of the *Village Choristers* masterly. The chiaro-scuro marks the time of day best in the scene discovered through the window, and over the whole room, in gradations of light that may be compared with those of Rembrandt. What is perhaps more strictly to be called mechanism appears inimitable in the window, the cupboard, the musical instruments, and particularly a deal table, upon which some beer is spilt. These particulars I should scarcely have dwelt upon, had I not heard an enthusiastic admirer of Mr. Wilkie attach as great a value to a miraculous pincushion in his little picture as to a whole picture of his rival's.—Last year Mr. Bird appeared in a new character at the Royal Academy as a moral painter. His subject was drawn from a higher sphere of life. The effects of joy on virtuous minds, and of disappointment on the depraved, are here pourtrayed. To succeed in the former expression, so as to excite the spectator's sympathy, is one of the highest aims of the painter. The tale of this picture is as well told as if you heard the actors speak. As far as I am acquainted with Mr. Wilkie's works, I do not know that he ever ventured into this walk of art; yet his friends continue to be offended at the distinguished

place this picture occupied in the Exhibition. Still the invidious comparisons continue, re-echoing his humour, his mechanism, and his brilliant touch. I have seen brilliant tears flow from eyes that beheld this picture; its composition is unrivalled among its contemporaries, till Mr. Wilkie shall eclipse its lustre in a companion, which I understand its owner, the Earl of Moira, has engaged him to paint to it. The picture of the *Choristers* is in the possession of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent. Has it found its way into such distinguished hands by the machinations of those wicked Academicians to gratify their envy of Mr. Wilkie's merits? If it has, this, like other great evils, is accompanied by its antidote, for I understand the Prince also expects, or possesses already, a companion picture from Mr. Wilkie. Can there be a better opportunity imagined for crushing an unworthy rival by the fairest means? In the account which appeared in the *Examiner* of *The Opening of the Will*, the story was unaccountably misstated, and scarcely any part of it well described, except the inimitable figure of the disappointed heir. Had I not already too far trespassed on your readers' patience, I should feel pleasure in adding a short account of what I conceive to be the merits in the conception and execution of this picture. As the partiality you may feel towards Mr. Wilkie's great and brilliant talents can not affect the future success of Mr. Bird in his new career, I anticipate with great delight, Mr. Examiner, your intended account of it. Notwithstanding my difference of opinion with regard to Mr. Bird, I am fully convinced that the Fine Arts of this country are more indebted to you than to any other contemporary writer. ALUMNUS.

Clifton, Feb. 12, 1812.

P. S. Since the above was penned, I have seen the *English Student's* Postscript. I have nothing to say to his explanation of his former opinions; but I must assure him that Mr. Bird has never been informed that Mr. Wilkie had been advised to withdraw his picture from the Exhibition in April, 1810.

MILITARY INQUIRY.

The Sixteenth and Seventeenth Reports of the Military Commissioners have been laid before Parliament. It seems that the chief *advantages* derived from these Inquiries are those which the Commissioners themselves enjoy in the shape of salaries; so that, in fact, the very system of Inquiry into Abuse, which promised so much relief to the Public, is actually operating to add to the mischiefs which it was the *avowed* intention of the Government to do away. —"When we consider (says the *Times*, in speaking of the Seventeenth Report) that of all the extravagancies pointed out by them, few or none have been retrenched;—of all the unnecessary offices, few or none have been lopped,—that this Military Committee is itself an expensive one, so that if it effects no good, it increases the evil;—when we consider all these things, we think perhaps that it were better, or would at least be less galling, that we should be plundered in ignorance, than, knowing that we are plundered, find ourselves without the means of redress. One office was both marked out by the Reports of Committees as unnecessary, and the existing possessor of it had been proved to be a notorious defalcator; yet, notwithstanding this double motive for its suppression, a power was found, even in these times of public distress, capable of continuing the office, and a man capable of accepting it.—After this and many other instances similar in nature, what have we to hope from Committee Reports?"—What indeed!—"In speaking of jobs (continues the *Times*) we have usually termed them *disgraceful*. The epithet is ill applied; for that guilt can hardly be called disgraceful, in which so many participate as to keep each other in countenance, and wherein the participators can maintain their station in society without shame. But as the moral and religious quality of an act is not altered by any incidental circumstances, —such as the number of those who commit it,—we should rather call them immoral or wicked jobs. This observation, however, must be understood as applying less to the individuals accepting of office than to those who present to it."—With the exception of the base creatures who give and the mean ones who usually accept of such places,—there can be hardly a reasonable person in the Empire who does not acknowledge the great propriety of the above remarks, which, it is to be hoped, the Editors of Provincial Journals will universally copy into their Papers.—Parliament patronizes the hideous system,—the Court recommends it,—and both profit by it:—it is the people only, therefore, who can check or counteract it, by exerting themselves in every legal way—by petition, remonstrance, and above all,—where they have any voice,—by returning such men only to the Commons House, who will pledge themselves solemnly to exert all their might to put down the pernicious practice.

These Reports relate chiefly to the Contracts with one Willan, and to the Corps of Artillery Drivers.—This corps, it appears, is commanded by Major-General Douglas, who, though placed on the Staff as a General Officer, with of course the pay of one, executes no duties as a General Officer on the Staff. This Major General, too, has various other military appointments, the profits arising from which amount to nearly 5000*l.* a-year.—Major General Douglas may be a very good Officer; but what has he done for the country, that he should take nearly five thousand pounds annually out of the public purse?

Major James, well known as the author of the Military Dictionary and the Regimental Companion,—two very useful works,—is the Major of this Corps; "a situation (says the Report) perhaps anomalous in the military establishments of this country, for it is the giving the highest pay and allowances attached to such rank, not for any services which have been performed with the Corps to which he belongs, even from the first filling up of the Commission, (with the exception of the discovery of *some abuses* in the corps) but for services merely civil, and those, it appears, for four or five years past at least, actually occupying but a very small portion of the Officer's time. The Commandant of the Corps is of opinion, that under the present constitution of the corps there are no duties for an Officer of this rank to perform in it: there cannot be a doubt, therefore, we think, that if this constitution be continued, the staff rank of Major should be struck out of the corps."—This recommendation is a very proper one, and it ought to, and doubtless it will, be attended to; for Major James is an active, intelligent, and upright officer, who has discovered "some abuses," and has therefore made himself many enemies. The Major has committed one fault only, that of continuing to hold a situation in which he found there was nothing to do. It is true,—and it is a fact which the Military Reporters ought in common justice to have no-

ticed,—that Major James had frequently tendered his resignation, which was not accepted, to Earl Moira, who employed the Major as his French Secretary, without any additional allowance.—His Lordship might indeed have reasonably conceived that Major James was a very proper person to "examine into and point out the abuses which his Lordship had reason to think existed to a great extent in the Corps of Artillery Drivers;" but Lord Moira should also have recollected, that it was worse than idle to point out one abuse by the establishment of another; and it is every way lamentable, that he could discover no other way of doing justice to the services of a worthy and intelligent man, than that of placing him in a situation, which was at once obnoxious to his feelings and injurious to the interests of the nation.—Major James indeed,—and it is a very novel circumstance,—did point out abuses, as well as the mode of rectifying them; and it is not a little curious,—though unnoticed by the Commissioners,—that their chief suggestions of improvement are those which that officer had himself recommended.—So much for Major James's conduct, which, though erroneous in *one* instance, has been highly useful, honourable, and disinterested, in *many*; and thus much has been said, in order that he should not be classed and confounded with that mercenary mob, whose pursuits and principles are equally detestable.

As for Mr. Willan, he is a Contractor, and of course thinks himself justified in making the best possible bargain—for himself. In 1803, he contracted to supply the Government with horses and their forage, for works going on at Dover. The stipulated feed, however, was found to be so inadequate, that Government was compelled to allow an addition to the forage at their own expence. The horses were also in so bad a state, that they were not able to perform the necessary work; and, indeed, for all great burthens, stronger horses were obliged to be hired at a considerable extra expence.—On this subject, the Report states,—"The observation which occurs to us on the preceding statement refers only to the mode in which, in the case of the works at Dover, Mr. Willan has fulfilled his contract. It has been sufficiently shewn, that the horses provided *have been unequal to the work assigned them*, which is attributed, even by Mr. Willan himself, to the insufficiency of their food; for he applied to, and received from, the Board of Ordnance an extra allowance, equal to 2lbs. of hay per diem. Mr. Willan's agreement is to provide the horses with *sufficient* forage; no addition could, therefore, be with propriety applied for."—But this is not all. The Ordnance Board, in 1803, made such an improvident Contract with Mr. Willan for the hire of horses, that it was soon discovered the public would lose seventy-three thousand pounds annually by the bargain. How did the Ordnance Board proceed to remedy this? Why, by entering into another Contract with Mr. Willan, which the Report characterizes as being still more improvident than the original Contract.—The consequence was, that two months only before its expiration, the Board paid the Contractor *thirty thousand pounds* to dissolve it!—All this is to be found in the Report itself; but there are two or three things worth mentioning, which the Report says little or nothing about.—The Commandant of the Royal Artillery Drivers is Major-General Douglas, "who *alone* has the power of purchasing, casting, and selling, the Horses for the Corps."—Now this same Major-General has a son, who has married Miss Willan, daughter of the identical Horse-Contractor, whose bargains have been so disgraceful to the Ordnance Board and ruinous to the public, but so profitable to Mr. Willan.—Mr. Willan, it seems, kept a farm at Marybone, and supplied his neighbours with milk. From a cow-keeper he became a horse-dealer, and then grew into a Contractor; from all which honest employments he has been enabled, it is said, to realize *half a million of money*, and therefore it can be no wonder that he has married his daughter to the son of a Major-General.—This connexion, it is obvious, must have been very convenient to all parties.—The Major-General, who *alone* has the power to purchase, cast, and sell the horses, could not possibly deal with a more proper person than the man whose daughter had married his son. Nothing could be more natural.—Then how handy and useful the Marybone Farm, where the horses are stationed, and mustered once a month; on which day of muster, they were doubtless always in very proper and powerful trim, and were viewed with much satisfaction by "a Civil Officer sent by the Board of Ordnance," Mr. Willan the Contractor, his son-in-law the Aid-de-Camp, and the Major-General Robert Douglas, who is on the Staff, as well as Commandant of the Corps of Royal Artillery Drivers, and Colonel-Commandant of the Royal Regiment of Artillery.—The horses belonging to Mr. Willan, which were sent to Dover, were not indeed of a very inviting appearance,—(to the crows excepted, who have a peculiar taste in these matters);—but at "Willan's Farm," where they were mustered on a particular day in each month, before the Civil Officer, &c. —nothing could of course surpass the efficiency, order, and beauty of the beasts.

Such is the course pursued by men, who are paid large salaries to watch over the interests of the nation: such is the way in which the public money is expended, and the public burthens accumulated!—Yet, those who cry out for *Reform* are saluted with all sorts of reproachful names; and when you complain, you are desired to look abroad, where much worse things are committed.—What a convincing mode of reasoning!—So, because my neighbour is racked with the gout, I must not desire the removal of a blister, which irritates and exhausts, and only serves to put money into the pockets of ignorant and mercenary Doctors.

THE PYRAMIDS.

Mr. Clarkson concluded on Thursday, at the London Philosophical Society, Scot's Hall, his Lectures on the Pyramids. The following is an extract from his recapitulation. It appears, then, that the Pyramids are not sepulchral monuments from a variety of evidence:—1st, from the discrepancies of the opposite theory, particularly in regard to the holes which perforate the Pyramid of Cheops from the outside to the centre room, proving the fallacy of the *Napoleon Hypothesis*:—2dly, from the communications under ground, proved by analogy, by record, by Coptic and Hindoo tradition, and even by experiment:—3dly, from the nature of the passages, so ill-adapted to the purposes of burial:—4thly, from analogy, drawn from Chaldea, Mexico, and particularly from the pyramidal temples of Hindostan, combined with Brahmin traditions of the Egyptian Pyramids:—5thly, from the profane character of Cheops:—6thly, from the identification of the external form with the whole sum of Egyptian wisdom, elucidated by Coptic tradition as well as by the Hermesian and Pla-

tonic philosophy :—7thly, from the peculiar characteristics of the Sarcophagus itself, of which there are no less than six features that prove it was not a sepulchre :—and lastly, from the etymologies of the word Pyramid, whether derived from a Coptic, a Greek, a Shanscrit, or a Hebrew source. From these facts the conclusion naturally flows (for there is no alternative), that the passages were devoted to the mysteries of the Sun ; and this opinion (without the aid of the alternative described) is farther confirmed by the following circumstance :—1st, by the situation of the Pyramids and the precinct of theological fable :—2dly, by the nature of the Egyptian Mysteries :—3dly, by the mechanism of the Elusinean Passages built on the same model :—4thly, by the sideral ladder devoted to the mysteries of the Sun, of which the five galleries, five platforms, and two chambers, are clear exemplifications, independent of the Coptic traditions, on which this point is not deficient :—5thly, by the complete coincidence of the Sarcophagus with the mystical Tomb of Osiris in all its characteristics, proved by seven ancient authorities :—6thly, from the central situation of the Chamber of Osiris, or the Sun :—7thly, from the narrow communication between the first and second Passage, connected by two features with Initiary Rites :—8thly, from the Well itself, which leads to the only Infernal Regions of the Egyptians, and which forms one of the three ways described by Virgil; the first leading to Elysium (the Temple of the Sun according to Bryant), the second to the abode of Proserpine (the Queen's Chamber), and the third to Tartarus, the scene of Judgment and the lake of Caroun, which still retains its name.—Mr. C. deduces from all these combined facts, that the Pyramids were Sabian Temples, and that the Passages were devoted to those mysteries which were universally connected with the worship of Solar Fire and the Host of Heaven.

MRS. JEBB.

This lady died at her house in Half-moon-street, Piccadilly, January 20th, 1812; and was buried in Bunhill-fields, London, on the 28th of the same month.

"When we announced the death of Mrs. Jebb, it was not deemed necessary to pass eulogiums on a character so long appreciated, and so justly revered, as that of the late Dr. Jebb; but it would not be doing justice to female worth, to pass over a lady of such distinguished merit, without an expression of respect; for the widow was, in her sphere, not a less eminent character than her husband.

"Mrs. Jebb was the eldest daughter of the late Rev. James Torkington, rector of King's Rippon and Little Stukely, in Huntingdonshire, and of Lady Dorothy Sherard, daughter of Philip, second Earl of Harborough. She was married to Dr. Jebb in 1764, when he was in the height of his literary reputation at Cambridge. The doctor, it is well known, engaged in some very serious controversies with the University, (particularly on abolishing subscription to the thirty-nine articles at the time of taking degrees, and on public annual examinations of under-graduates). These disputes found exercise for the first talents at that time in the University—and Mrs. Jebb was not content with being a silent observer; she became the active opponent of Dr. Powel, the master of St. John's college, who conducted the other side of the controversy, and who felt as sensibly the point of Mrs. Jebb's pen, in the public prints, as he did those of the learned doctor's. It was in reference to the force of argument contained in a smart pamphlet, written by Mrs. Jebb on the same subject, under the signature of 'Priscilla,' that the late Dr. Paley said at the time, "The Lord had sold Sisera into the hands of a Woman."

"When Dr. Jebb (having embraced some speculative opinions, which he thought made it necessary for him to resign his preferment and to leave the church) settled in London, he became a physician, and a strenuous political reformer. No name is better known among the advocates of parliamentary reform, than that of Dr. Jebb; and the active energy of Mrs. Jebb is also well known: being an invalid, she lived a retired life; but her zeal rose to the full level of her husband's—she saw with the same quickness, glowed with the same ardour, and wrote occasionally, with the same spirit.

"But Mrs. J. was not more distinguished for the vigour of her mind, than the qualities of her heart. She was a Christian, without bigotry; a moralist, without severity, a politician without self-interest or ambition; a sincere friend, without disguise & without reserve.—With considerable powers of mind, she possessed all the amiable softness of the female character. With as few failings as could well fall to the lot of humanity, she exercised an unlimited candour in judging those of others. Candour and benignity were the prominent features of her character. Her friends, therefore, were numerous, and she could not have a single enemy.

"These superior qualities of mind and heart were lodged in a body of the most delicate texture. The frame of Mrs. Jebb was extremely feeble, her countenance always languid and wan. She used to recline on a sofa, and had not been out of her room above once or twice these twenty years—she seemed the shadow of a shade, or rather all soul and intellect, like one dropped from another sphere. For her ardour and patriotic firmness, mixed with urbanity and gentleness, and occasionally brightening with innocent playfulness, gave that to her countenance which the mere bloom of health cannot bestow, nor the pen describe; it gave a singular interest to her character: it can only be felt, and will be lastingly remembered, by her surviving friends."—*Morning Chronicle.*

LAW.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

Thursday, Feb. 20.

THE KING *v.* THE BARON VON DOORNICK.

Mr. PARKE stated, that this was an indictment against the Baron, for a most abominable nuisance he had set up in the fields, behind Whitechapel. He had literally stunk out all his neighbours, by boiling bones, and collecting a compound of all villanous smells; the putrid carcasses of dead horses, stinking horns and hoofs, sal volatile, and soap lees, were all congregated; each in its highest pitch of perfection, were all collected, to the utter destruction of the comforts of the neighbourhood.—He was in a condition to call multitudes of witnesses to shew that even the passengers who came within the effluvia of the factory immediately unloaded the contents of their stomachs; and some workmen in a house near, were literally driven away from their work, unable to stand the shock of such a mass of putrefaction. He had also a specimen of some of the liquid, which he would uncork, to convince the Court and Jury that he was not overstating the thing.—(*The Jury shook their heads.*) He said, then he would not assail their noses, but he would give them ample evidence of the dreadful nuisance of the Baron's manufactory.

Mr. ATTORNEY-GENERAL here admitted, that the manufactory had not been so well conducted as it might have been, but promised that in future the business should be so managed as not to offend the neighbourhood, and offered to bind his client by a rule of Court, to conduct his factory in a mode to be prescribed by a skilful person, to be named between them.

Mr. PARKE consented, but said he must take a verdict of guilty, which was agreed to, and the defendant was accordingly found guilty, subject to the above agreement.

Friday, Feb. 21.

THE KING *v.* BROWN.

This was an information against the defendant, Colonel Brown, for a forgery at common law. The information charged

him with having forged a certain instrument, purporting to be signed by George Harrison, Esq. one of the Law Clerks to the Treasury, and by Cecil Jenkinson, Esq. one of the Under Secretaries of State, with an intent to defraud Government, by obtaining a grant of six thousand acres of land in the island of St. Vincent's.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL stated the circumstances of the case as follow. In the year 1809, Col. Brown represented to Government that he had a large gang of negroes which he had brought up with great care, and had succeeded in making them domestic, and he prayed for an allotment of Crown Land in the island of St. Vincent's. It was thought that he had claims upon the Government of this country, having suffered as an American Loyalist, and as Government had some land in the island, they gave him a grant of six thousand acres. It was, however, discovered that a part of the land had been granted to other persons, who held it at the will of the Crown, and as they had expended money to bring it to a state of cultivation, it was thought wrong to expel them, and they were allowed to purchase; which was done to the amount of sixty thousand pounds. But in order to indemnify Colonel Brown for this disappointment, Government gave him half the money, namely, thirty thousand pounds, which was considered a handsome recompense. It happened, however, shortly afterwards, in the year 1810, that Sir Charles Brisbane, the Governor of St. Vincent's, received a dispatch under the official seal of the Secretary of State's Office, directing him to make a grant of the same land which had originally been granted to Col. Brown, which direction purported to be by order of Mr. Jenkinson, the Chief Secretary of State. A discussion took place with Colonel Brown's Agent, and the Governor thought proper to send home for instructions, when it was discovered that the whole was a forgery, no such orders having even issued from the Secretary of State's Office in England. How Col. Brown got possession of the Seal of Office, he was unable to state, but he could prove that the papers were written (all but the signatures) at the Office of Mr. Stevens, a Law Stationer, in Chancery-lane, and that Col. Brown brought the rought draft, and took them away when finished, and the plea which was with them was drawn by a Clerk in the Duke of Bedford's Office, who was employed by Col. Brown; so that he traced him in giving directions for the instruments, and no other person had any interest in the fraud. Under these circumstances, he thought no doubt could be entertained of the guilt of the defendant.—These facts were proved by Sir Charles Brisbane, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Jenkinson; Mr. Stevens, and his Clerks, who ingrossed the papers by the order of Col. Brown. Several men of rank gave Col. Brown a high character; but the Jury, without hesitation, found him guilty.

MIDDLESEX SESSIONS.

On Wednesday *John Tubb*, and *Rebecca*, his wife, were indicted at the suit of the parish of St. Pancras, for inhumanity and cruelty to their children.—The evidence upon the trial, however, only went to affect the conduct of the female prisoner, against whom it appeared that she had frequently exposed two of her children to the inclemency of the winter, without food or raiment, and that on one occasion she nearly strangled them with a leathern strap, to prevent their cries.—The Jury acquitted the husband, but found the wife *Guilty*, and the Court sentenced her to six months imprisonment in the House of Correction.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

FREDERICK KELNER.—The mystery which hung about this young man's sudden disappearance in a wounded state five weeks since, from the Post Office, was on Monday last cleared up, by the body of the unfortunate youth being found floating on the surface of Poplar Cut, with the ball of the pistol, with which he attempted his life, still sticking in his neck. The body was conveyed to the nearest public-house, and a Coroner's Jury impannelled from amongst the Clerks of the Post Office, who returned their verdict, of Lunacy.

EXECUTION.—*Clayton* and *Jenkins*, for burglary, were executed on Wednesday morning at Newgate. After the culprits had been divested of their irons, Clayton observed to Jenkins, it was an awful moment, and he exhorted him to cheer his spirits, and die with manly fortitude—adding that the sentence was just, and trusting their example would warn others against keeping bad company.

BIRTHS.

On the 4th inst. the wife of a farmer in the parish of Blairgowrie, Scotland, was safely delivered of three daughters, who, with the mother, are doing well.

MARRIAGES.

On Thursday, Mr. George Webb, of Ludgate-street, to Miss Susan Bish, of Cornhill.

DEATHS.

MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT CRAUFURD.—The last letters from our army in Portugal mention the death of this officer, of the wound he received when leading on the light division of Lord Wellington's army to the storm of Ciudad Rodrigo. At the time he was wounded he was considerably advanced before his division, animating them to storm the breach.—Upon his return to Portugal last spring, he joined his division when the army was drawn up to receive Massena's attack at Fuente d'Honore, and as soon as he appeared at their head, the whole division gave him three cheers in the presence of the enemy.—The General has left a wife and four children.

On Tuesday, the 28th of January, at Bristol Hot-Wells, after a lingering illness of more than two years continuance, Ann Bowerbank, aged 26; and on Saturday evening the 9th instant, at the house of her brother, the Rev. T. F. Bowerbank, Vicar of Chiswick, Isabel Bowerbank, only surviving sister, aged twenty-two; following their youngest brother Edward, aged twenty-three, and their sister Mary, aged twenty-four, to the grave within the short period of ten months.—The circumstances attending the deaths of these four young persons are very remarkable. Their brother Edward arrived from India, labouring under a deep consumption: his sister Mary came from Bristol to see him, at Chiswick, but would not be persuaded of his danger, until she had heard the decided opinion of the medical attendant to an indifferent person, for which purpose she concealed herself behind the curtain. "Now," said she, "I am satisfied—I hope I shall not survive him." She was taken ill the next morning, and, after twelve days, died, preceding the object of her tender solicitude to the grave by exactly a month. Similar but more awful has been the fate of poor Isabel.—For several months past it had been her repeated declaration, both by letter and words, that anxious as she might be to have health and strength to administer to the comforts of her lingering sister, yet, as soon as the scene of her sufferings should close, life would become indifferent to herself. On the 5th instant her sister was buried. On Friday she accompanied her brother to Chiswick, where she arrived without the least fatigue on Saturday. On Sunday, after a few hours of apparently trifling indisposition, from which she appeared to be fast recovering, in the act of taking some refreshment, she raised her eyes, and, without the least change of feature or posture, immediately expired!—They were four of the six children of the late Rev. Edward Bowerbank, Rector of Croft and Barningham, and Prebendary of Lincoln.

On Tuesday last, at the Tower, in his 73d year, Col. Matthew Smith, Major of the Tower.

On Wednesday se'nnight, at Monmouth, of a dropsy on the brain, Andrew Cherry, Esq. Manager of the Theatres at that town, and at Swansea; and formerly of the London Theatre.

On Tuesday, at his brother's house, in Poet's Corner, Mr. Henry Medley, late of his Majesty's 84th regiment of foot, aged 41 years.

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